

Serial No. **10/721,737**

Docket No. **K-0583**

Amdt. dated August 28, 2008

Reply to Office Action of March 31, 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A nozzle assembly for a dishwasher having first and second racks for holding items to be washed, the nozzle assembly including:

a fixed central piece; and

a first nozzle rotatably provided proximate to the first rack and undetachably and rotatably coupled to the fixed central piece, wherein the first nozzle comprises first and second nozzle sections each of which is independently coupled to the fixed central piece ~~and so as to be~~ rotatable about a horizontal axis with respect to the fixed central piece and sprays a washing fluid toward a first rack direction or toward a second rack direction.

2. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a fluid circulating device in communication with the first nozzle, wherein the fluid circulating device supplies washing fluid under pressure to the first nozzle for spraying therethrough, and wherein the fluid under pressure rotates the first nozzle about a vertical axis of rotation.

3. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 2, wherein the fixed central piece has two open ends, wherein the first and second nozzle sections each have a closed end and an open end, and wherein the open end of each nozzle section is rotatably coupled to one of the two open ends of the fixed central piece.

4. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein the first nozzle is configured to selectively spray washing fluid toward the first rack direction in a first mode or toward the second rack direction in a second mode, and wherein changing from the first mode to the second mode is done by rotating the first and second nozzle sections about their respective horizontal axis.

5. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein the fixed central piece and the first and second nozzle sections are symmetrical about a vertical plane passing through a central axis of the fixed central piece.

6. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein a manual rotation of one of the first and second nozzle sections about its respective horizontal axis causes a corresponding rotation of the other of the first and second nozzle sections.

7. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein the first nozzle further comprises a pair of O-rings respectively installed at connecting surfaces between the fixed central piece and the first and second nozzle sections.

8. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 7, wherein the open ends of the fixed central piece each have a stepped surface configured to receive one of the pair of O-rings.

9. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 7, wherein the pair of O-rings are made of a rubber based material so as to prevent leakage at the connecting surfaces and to resist rotation during operation of the nozzle assembly.

10. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a second nozzle rotatably provided proximate to the second rack, wherein the second nozzle is configured to direct washing fluid toward the second rack.

11. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 10, further comprising a fluid circulating device in communication with the second nozzle, wherein the fluid circulating device is configured to supply washing fluid under pressure to the second nozzle for spraying therethrough, and to rotate the second nozzle by the pressure of the supplied washing fluid.

12. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 10, wherein the first and second racks are top and bottom racks, respectively, and the first and second nozzles are top and bottom nozzles, respectively.

13. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 10, wherein the first and second nozzles are disposed substantially parallel to the first and second racks, respectively.

14. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the first and second nozzle sections includes a first side surface and a second side surface, and wherein a plurality of injection holes are formed on the first side surface so as to spray washing fluid upward toward the first rack direction, and to spray washing fluid downward toward the

second rack direction when the respective nozzle section is rotated about its respective horizontal axis so as to change an orientation of the holes.

15. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the first and second nozzle sections is configured to rotate 180 degrees about its respective horizontal axis of rotation.

16. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein each of the first and second nozzle sections has first and second surfaces extending between their respective open and closed ends, and wherein the first surface of each of the first and second nozzle sections each include a plurality of holes in fluid communication with the fixed central piece via the open ends of the first and second nozzle sections and the fixed central piece.

17. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the washing fluid is water, detergents, soil particles, or any combination thereof.

18. (Previously Presented) A dishwasher comprising the nozzle assembly of claim 1.

19. (Currently Amended) A nozzle assembly for a home appliance, the nozzle assembly comprising:

a nozzle that sprays washing fluid in first and second directions simultaneously or selectively, wherein the nozzle comprises:

a fixed central piece with one end in fluid communication with a fluid circulating device, and another end having first and second openings; and

first and second nozzle sections, each comprising:

a closed end and an open end, wherein the open end of the first and second nozzle sections is undetachably and independently coupled to the first and second openings of the fixed central piece ~~and so as to be rotatable with respect thereto;~~

first and second surfaces extending between the open and closed ends of each of the first and second nozzle sections; and

a plurality of holes formed along one of the first surfaces and the second surfaces of the first and second nozzle sections, wherein the plurality of holes are in fluid communication with the fixed central piece through the respective open ends so as to allow washing fluid to be sprayed therethrough, and wherein, while coupled to the fixed central piece, the first and second nozzle sections are rotatable about a horizontal axis thereof while the fixed central piece remains stationary so as to adjust a position of the first surfaces of the first and second nozzle sections and the plurality of holes therein.

20. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly of claim 19, wherein a manual rotation of one of the first or second nozzle sections about the horizontal axis causes a corresponding rotation of the other of the first or second nozzle sections such that the plurality of holes formed in the first and second nozzle sections are configured to all spray washing fluid in the same direction based on a rotational position of the first and second nozzle sections relative to the fixed central piece.

21. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly of claim 1, wherein the first and second nozzle sections spray washing fluid only toward the first rack direction in a first mode, and only toward the second rack direction in a second mode.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly of claim 19, wherein the first nozzle is configured to selectively spray washing fluid toward the first rack direction in a first mode or toward the second rack direction in a second mode, and wherein changing from the first mode to the second mode is done by detaching the first and second nozzle sections from the fixed central piece, and re-attaching the first and second nozzle sections to the fixed central piece such

that an orientation of the first and second nozzle sections is rotated 180° about their respective horizontal axis.

24. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly of claim 19, wherein the plurality of injection holes are formed only in the first side surface such that washing fluid is sprayed only toward a first rack direction or only toward a second rack direction based on the orientation of the holes.

25. (Previously Presented) The nozzle assembly of claim 19, wherein the second surfaces of the first and second nozzle sections are continuous such that washing fluid cannot pass therethrough.

26. (Previously Presented) A home appliance comprising the nozzle assembly of claim 19.